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RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHAM #2981 3041119  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
R 301119Z OCT 08  
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3754  
INFO RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 6091  
RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 2933  
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 3815  
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 3996  
RUEHKH/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 0035  
RUEHKU/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT 0921  
RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH 2043  
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 1375  
RUEHJI/AMCONSUL JEDDAH 0842  
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM 5211  
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC  
RUEAHL/DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS AMMAN 002981

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ELA AND EEB  
STATE PLEASE PASS TO USTR (GROVES, FRANCESKI)  
STATE PLEASE PASS TO USPTO (LEIFMAN, REVES)  
STATE PLEASE PASS TO LOC (METZGER)  
DHS FOR ICE (LOVETT)

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: ARAB LEAGUE ESTABLISHES IPR OFFICE AND HOSTS REGIONAL  
CONFERENCE

REF: AMMAN 2929

¶1. (SBU) Summary: The Arab Federation for the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights (AFPIPR), an intellectual property rights (IPR) organization affiliated with the Arab League, opened its Jordan office earlier this summer and received diplomatic accreditation on October 9. On October 28, AFPIPR hosted a regional conference on IPR protection with over 200 participants. End Summary.

¶2. (U) This summer, Dr. Mohammed Al-Rhahleh, Regional Manager of AFPIPR opened an office in Amman (reftel). Foreign Minister Salahiddin Al Bashir signed an agreement with AFPIPR on October 9 formally recognizing the establishment of a regional branch of AFPIPR in Jordan. At the press conference, it was stated that Jordan is eager to support efforts of the federation to protect intellectual property rights.

¶3. (U) AFPIPR, together with Jordan Customs and the Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority (ASEZA) hosted a regional conference on October 28 on "The Role of Arab Customs in Protecting IPR - Reality and Ambition." More than 200 participants from the region including Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Iraq, Sudan, and Kuwait attended the conference. During Al-Rhahleh's remarks he emphasized the close ties between economic growth, trade, international investment and intellectual property rights protection, and the importance of the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs Agreement). Officials from Jordan Customs and ASEZA further emphasized the necessary partnership between the public and private sector in this area.

¶4. (SBU) AFPIPR has completed several MOU's with IPR stakeholders in Jordan, most notably the Jordan Customs Department.

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